

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 233886

44

ORIGIN DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 DHA-02 ISO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED BY D/HA/PW:FASIEVERTS:JS

APPROVED BY D/HA/PW:FASIEVERTS

----- 124176

O 211646Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CDR JCRC BARBERS POING HI IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 233886

FOLLOWING REPEAT AMCONSUL UDORN 6066 P 210228Z SEP 76 ACTION AMEMBASS

Y

BANGKOK INFO SECSTATE AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL UDORN 6066

SECSTATE ATTN: FRANK SIEVERTS OHA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINR

SUBJECT: MIA WIFE BOYLES INTERVIEWS PL DEFECTOR

1. MIA WIFE MRS MARY BOYLES, ACCCOMPANIED BY 21 YR OLD SON  
MARK, ARRIVED UDORN SEPTEMBER 15 TO INTERVIEW PATHET LAO  
(PL) DEFECTOR MAJOR SIMMA OUTHAMONTI (FORMERLY KNOWN AS MAJOR  
SIMMA PAN SUYIYAWONGSE) IN HOPES OF SECURING INFORMATION ABOUT  
FATE OF HER HUSBAND, RETIRED AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
HOWARD BOYLES WHO HAS BEEN MISSING SINCE FEBRUARY 1973 WHEN  
C-123 HE WAS PILOTING FOR AIR AMERICA WAS SHOT DOWN NEAR  
THAKHEK, LAOS.

2. MRS BOYLES SOUGHT ASSISTANCE OF CONSULATE'S LAO SPEAK-  
ING USAID REFUGEE OFFICER, WHO WAS SENIOR US REPRESENTATIVE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 233886

IN UDORN AT TIME OF HER VISIT TO QUESTION MAJOR SIMMA WHO IS

IN NONG KHAI REFUGEE CAMP 50 KILOMETERS NORTH OF UDORN.  
DURING MRS BOYLES' VISIT CONSUL WAS TRAVELLING ON OFFICIAL  
BUSINESS IN LOEI PROVINCE AND VICE CONSUL WAS ON LEAVE.

3. ON SEPTEMBER 17 MRS BOYLES, SON MARK AND USAID OFFICER  
TRAVELED TO NONG KHAI TO INTERVIEW MAJOR SIMMA, HE WAS  
UNABLE TO PROVIDE HER WITH ANY USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT HER  
HUSBAND.

4. HOWEVER, DURING COURSE OF INTERVIEW, WHICH MRS BOYLES  
RECORDED ON CASSETTE TAPE, MAJOR SIMMA CLAIMED THAT WHILE HE  
WAS A PRISONER IN PL PRISON CAMP IN SOUTHERN LAOS HE SAW  
FIFTEEN (15) US POWS IN HIS CAMP AS LATE AS JUNE 1973. HE  
ADDED THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY CAPTURED THREE (3) OF THESE  
PRISONERS FROM A DOWNED USAF F105 NEAR THAKHET, LAOS IN  
AUGUST 1971. HE STATED THAT IN JULY 1973 HE MANAGED TO  
ESCAPE FROM CAMP AND DEFECT TO ROYAL LAOTIAN ARMY. AFTER  
COMMUNIST TAKEOVER HE FLED LAOS ENTERING NONG KHAI REFUGEE  
CAMP IN MAY 1975. (IN BANGKOK POST FEATURE NEWS STORY  
SEPTEMBER 24, 1973 MAJOR SIMMA IS REPORTED AS STATING THAT  
HE WAS INPRISONED BY PL IN LAK KHETMO JAIL IN ATTAPUEU PRO-  
VINCE DURING FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1973 ON CHARGES OF TREASON  
AND DESERTION).

5. MRS BOYLES DEPARTED UDORN SEPTEMBER 19 FOR BANGKOK WHERE  
SHE PLANS TO SPEND SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE LEAVING FOR US.  
SHE REPORTEDLY PLANS TO VISIT JCRC REPRESENTATIVES IN HAWAII  
ENROUTE. USAID OFFICER WHO ASSISTED MRS BOYLES SAID THAT  
WHILE SHE WAS CRITICAL OF USG EFFORTS TO FOLLOW UP MIA IN-  
FORMATION SHE DID NOT APPEAR TO HIM TO BE AN UNREASONABLE  
OR IRRESPONSIBLE PERSON. NONETHELESS WE THINK THAT SHE MAY  
BE STRONGLY TEMPTED UPON HER RETURN TO US TO USE MAJOR SIMMA'S  
RECORDED STATEMENT TO DRAMATIZE IN SOME FASHION HER CRITICISM  
OF USG PERFORMANCE IN MIA ISSUE. IF OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS  
ITSELF JCRC REPRESENTATIVES MAY WANT TO COUNSEL HER TO AVOID  
TAKING SUCH ACTION, PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF MAJOR  
SIMMA'S CLAIM.

6. CONSUL WILL BE TRAVELLING TO NONG KHAI ON OFFICIAL BUS-  
INESS SEPTEMBER 22 SHOULD ADDRESSEE POST DESIRE I WILL BE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 233886

HAPPY TO TRY TO QUESTION MAJOR SIMMA FURTHER REGARDING HIS  
CLAIM OF US POW SIGHTING MADE TO MRS BOYLES. FINNEY  
UNQUOTE ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MIA, INVESTIGATIONS, DEFECTORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE233886  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** FASIEVERTS:JS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760356-0940  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760936/aaaabeky.tel  
**Line Count:** 110  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN DPW  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 SEP 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by ifshinsr>; WITHDRAWN <22 SEP 2004 by vogelfj, REFER TO OSD>; RELEASED <23 SEP 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <19 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006  
  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MIA WIFE BOYLES INTERVIEWS PL DEFECTOR 1, MIA WIFE MRS MARY BOYLES, ACCCOMPANIED BY 21 YR OLD SON MARK, ARRIVED UDORN SEPTEMBER 15 TO INTERVIEW PATH  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINR, (BOYLES, MARY), (BOYLES, HOWARD)  
**To:** CDR JCRC BARBERS POING HI CINCPAC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006